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Agricultural Memorandum No 780

Deaths of Pigs in Transit - effect of day maxima

L P Smith

Previous work has related pig deaths to mean daytime temperature. If any use is to be made of published forecasts of day maxima, death risk must be quoted with reference to this factor.

If the mean daytime temperature is below 14°C, death rate is less than 1 per thousand.

If it rises to about 19°C, the death rate rises to about 2 per 1000.

Analysis of 12 years data, 1961-1972, in the London area shows:-

Day Max	Occasions	Pigs transported	Deaths	Rate per 1000
24-25	61	107,603	252	2.34
25-26	38	65,184	180	2.76
26-27	26	47,522	146	3.07
27-28	13	25,707	70	3.39
28-29	5	9,700	31	3.20
29-30	5	9,399	42	4.46
30-31	1	1,578	11	6.97
31-32	1	2,110	17	8.05
32-33	1	2,464	50	20.30

Any comments or suggestions on this paper should be referred to the author

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